

# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Pre-War Branches of the KPP

## REPORT

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## REFERENCES

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1. Before the war, the Communist Party of Poland (KPP) had a number of special branches for purposes of organizing and delineating its revolutionary and conspiratorial activity. [redacted] five such branches: Military, Agricultural, Intelligentsia, Trade Union and Jewish Affairs. Their responsibilities were as follows:

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a. Military Branch (Wydział Wojskowy)

The principal function of this branch was the penetration of the armed forces of Poland for intelligence purposes. Its activity and membership was a closely guarded secret; the membership consisted of the elite of the Communist Party. The organization also was very compact. It was comprised of the Central Branch (Centralny Wydzial) and the Regional Branch (Wydzial Okregowy). The present head of the Council of State (Rada Panstwowa) of Poland, Aleksander ZAWADZKI, was chief of the pre-war Military Branch of the KPP.

b. Agricultural Branch (Wydział Rolny)

Communist agitation among the peasants under the guise of social-democratic interest was the chief concern of this branch. The former marshal of the Polish Sejm, KOWALSKI, was the chief of the Agricultural Branch before the war.

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c. Intelligentsia Branch

Jakob BERMAN, now Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, headed the Intelligentsia Branch. It concentrated on members of the learned professions, professors, lawyers, students, writers, artists, etc., with a view to winning them over to the Communist cause.

d. Trade Union Branch

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[ ] this branch [ ] an affiliate of the PROFINTERN (Prof Soyuzny Internacional) which may be a counterpart of or a forerunner to the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). The Communist assignment of the Trade Union Branch was to create splinter groups among the Polish Socialist (PPS) groups.

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e. Jewish Branch

This branch was at the height of its activity during the 1933-34 period when anti-Semitism was openly manifested in Poland. The branch was then expanded into a bureau. At this time the Communist Party concentrated on the Jewish ghettos in Poland, especially in the Lvov area, where it was highly successful in recruiting new adherents. The Communist-sponsored AJAP (Allgemeine Yiddische Arbeits Partei) was organized as a result of these new recruitments.

2. One of the less known but highly influential Communist-sponsored groups in Poland before the war was the "Miedzynarodowa Organizacja Pomocy Rewolucjonistow" (MOPR). Its sole function was to raise funds for the Communist Party movement under the guise of assistance to political prisoners who were incarcerated in prisons abroad. [ ] there now is a counterpart of this organization in every important country abroad. [ ] the group operated very effectively and was never liquidated. Its ranks are made up mostly of Communist fellow travelers who consider themselves liberal-minded intellectuals, pacifists and persons with peripheral Communist sympathies. The Communist Party values the organization highly and attempts to keep its political record unblemished so that it can continue to function overtly in its behalf. The MOPR was still active during the war when workers in various trade unions were often unwittingly assessed on a monthly basis to finance the activities of the Communist Party in other areas. The KPP directed and inspired its work which was conducted on a countrywide basis.

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